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The Honorable Val Peterson,  
Acting Administrator  
Federal Civil Defense Administration  
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Governor Peterson:

Thank you very much for your invitation of  
February 26th to attend the atomic tests scheduled  
for March 17th.

Unfortunately, I shall have to be present at  
the meeting of the National Security Council on the  
morning of March 18th and I do not feel that I could  
meet both appointments.

Please express my thanks and regrets to  
Mr. Dean.

Sincerely yours,

S. Dulles

Allen W. Dulles  
Director

25X1

[redacted] - 5 Mar 53  
Distr: O&I- addressee  
1 - reading  
1 - official w/basic

On file OSD release instructions apply.

FEMA review(s) completed.

FEDERAL CIVIL DEFENSE ADMINISTRATION  
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

OFFICE OF THE ADMINISTRATOR

FEB 26 1953

Honorable Allen Dulles  
Administrator  
Central Intelligence Agency  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Dulles:

The forthcoming series of tests to be conducted by the Atomic Energy Commission and the Department of Defense at the AEC Proving Ground at Las Vegas, Nevada, will include a test of special interest for Civil Defense purposes. The Chairman of the Atomic Energy Commission and I believe you would be interested in witnessing this test.

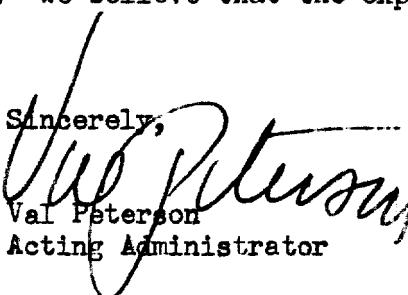
The atomic detonation of primary interest from the Civil Defense standpoint will be on March 17. This is one of the regularly scheduled tests for the development of atomic weapons, but with the cooperation of the Atomic Energy Commission, this Administration has provided a limited number of materials and structures for measurement of effects data. It has also been agreed that this test can be observed by a limited number of Members of Congress, Federal officials, State Governors and Civil Defense officials.

The program includes briefing sessions which will give you information on the scheduled burst and its civil defense implications to the Government and the public. It would be necessary for you to be in Las Vegas for about twenty-four hours from the afternoon of March 16, unless weather conditions necessitate a postponement.

Arrangements are being made to reserve necessary hotel accommodations. We should therefore appreciate having an early reply. If you plan to attend, complete details will be sent you promptly.

The Chairman of the Atomic Energy Commission and I both hope you can spare the time to make the trip. We believe that the experience will be mutually beneficial.

Sincerely,

  
Val Peterson  
Acting Administrator

FEDERAL CIVIL DEFENSE ADMINISTRATION  
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

OFFICE OF THE ADMINISTRATOR

RECORDED 100%

Honorable Allen Dulles  
Administrator  
Central Intelligence Agency  
Washington, D. C.

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Sincerely,  
SGD VAL PETERSON  
Val Peterson  
Acting Administrator

MEMORANDUM FOR: MR. DULLES

I understand from Mr. Babbitt at FCDA  
that Dr. Chadwell is being invited by a separate  
letter to attend.



25X1

5 March 1953  
(DATE)